(b) whether it is also a fact that MPEDA has alerted various investors and marginal farmers in Andhra Pradesh that acquaculture is not a permanent asset ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) : No Sir. A Scientifically conceived and eco-friendly aquaculture farm can continue its operation for an indefinite period.

(b) No Sir. MPEDA has been advising against the hazards of pollution and the overcrowding of farms. The concept of Scientific acquaculture is being emphasized by MPEDA.

(c) Does not arise.

**Tobacco Exports to CIS**

3686. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take steps to encourage tobacco exports to C.I.S. countries in the current season;

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

(c) whether an official team will be visiting C.I.S. countries to establish firm arrangements this year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) and (b) : Yes Sir. C.I.S. republi: being the major market for Indian tobacco the following steps are taken to promote export of tobacco and products in these countries;

1. Assisting exporters to :

(i) take up aggressive marketing in CIS markets.

(ii) Set up export promotion offices in CIS republics.

(iii) Establish warehouses in CIS republics for stock and sale of tobacco and cigarettes.

(iv) Explore possibilities to export tobacco to CIS republic against barter/counter trade.

(v) Establish Joint Ventures in CIS republics for cigarette production which would help export of Indian tobacco to these republics.

2. Joint participation with exporters by Tobacco Board in the World Tobacco Trade Fair held in Moscow.

3. Sending trade delegations to CIS Republics.

(c) and (d) : If necessary, an official. team would visit CIS countries. In 1992 and 1993 official teams visited these countries.

**Exemption of compulsory pre-shiping Inspection**

3687. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to phase out compulsory pre-shipment inspection by the Commerce Ministry;